To Quin Shea from Harold Weisberg, JFK assassination records 9/17/78
Oswald/Mexico City; intercepts

I have already appealed to the withholding under "national security" claim of FBI records related to tape recording of a Lee Harvey Oswald phone conversation in Mexico City. I believe I have told you that the fact of this has long been in the public domain, as it related to electronic surveillance and to this intercept in particular. I attach other relevant records for your assistance.

#1 The letter from Mr. Hoover to Mr. Rowley was not provided by the FBI. The best recollection I have is that the FBI still withholds this, although with the volume of records I cannot be certain. I suggest that the real reason for the continued withholding of records that were never classified is the content of pages 4 and 5, a negative identification of Oswald by the FBI.

My appeal includes a 11/23/63 teletype summarizing what Mr. Hoover here reports and a transcript provided to FBIHQ at a later date. Both records are in FBIHQ and the Dallas Field Office. Both withheld.

November 1976 is not the first public attention to this information. However, it

#2 the 11/28/76 Washington Post story received extraordinary play. The entire front page of the next day's Chicago Sunday paper, I think Sun-Times, was on this. The play by the Post, New York and Los Angeles Times are attached. No copies have been provided by the FBI, nor any records relevant save for one reflecting the FBI's being informed that Lesaler was working on the story.

(Earlier reporting ranged from a detailed cover story by Ernie Hudkins to E. Howard Hunt's account in his book of how he participated in planting devices for electronic surveillances in Mexico City embassies.)

I believe these matters have been of interest to Congressional committees. No records relating to such interest have been provided, to the best of my recollection.

Jim Lesar filed a telegraphic appeal from Wisconsin on or about 11/26/76. This and relevant records are included within my PA request of the Department as well as the FBI. (He telegraphed the AG.) No records were provided under either the JFK or the PA request, by the Department or by FBI.

Whether the withholdings from me were designed to facilitate or perhaps not prevent further news management and the forming of official opinion and decisions may be disclosed tomorrow when the House assassins committee reportedly will hold a hearing on what includes or should include this.